

135 tissue-receiving opening.

Please add the following new claims:

10. (New) The tissue cutting device of claim 1, wherein said cannula hub is detachably mounted to said handpiece.

11. (New) The tissue cutting device of claim 1, wherein said cannula hub and said outer cannula are detachable from said handpiece and said inner cutting member.

12. (New) The tissue cutting device of claim 1, wherein said handpiece includes a Luer fitting at a distal end thereof that is configured to mate with said cannula hub.

13. (New) The tissue cutting device of claim 2, wherein said valve is opened when said inner cutting member begins to retract from said tissue-receiving opening and is closed before said inner cutting member advances forward to sever tissue projecting through said tissue-receiving opening.

14. (New) A tissue cutting device comprising:
an elongated handpiece;
a cannula hub detachably mounted to said handpiece and having a fluid delivery port;
a tube connected at one end to said fluid port and having an opposite end connectable to a fluid source;

an outer cannula supported at a proximal end by said cannula hub and defining a tissue-receiving opening adjacent a distal end thereof, and a lumen between said proximal and distal ends in fluid communication with said fluid port of said cannula hub; and

an inner cutting member moveably attached to said handpiece and slidably disposed within said lumen of said outer cannula, said inner cutting member defining a cutting edge at said distal end thereof operable to sever tissue projecting through said tissue-receiving opening.

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15. ⁹ (New) A tissue cutting device comprising:

an elongated handpiece;

a cannula hub mounted to said handpiece and having a fluid port;

a tube connected at one end to said fluid port and having an opposite end connectable to a fluid source;

an outer cannula supported at a proximal end by said cannula hub and defining a tissue-receiving opening adjacent a distal end thereof, and a lumen between said proximal and distal ends in fluid communication with said fluid port of said cannula hub, said lumen including a cutting board therein; and

an inner cutting member slidably disposed within said lumen of said outer cannula and defining a cutting edge at said distal end thereof that is engagable with said cutting board to sever tissue projecting through said tissue-receiving opening.

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16. ¹⁰ (New) The tissue cutting device of claim ⁹ 15, wherein said cutting board is made from a material having a hardness less than a hardness of said inner cutting member at said cutting edge, but sufficient to substantially prevent deformation of said cutting board under pressure from said cutting edge engagement.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. Introduction

Applicants have reviewed the Office Action mailed 11/29/2002 (Paper No. 10) and thank the Examiner for his review of same. Claims 1-3 have been rejected. Claims 4-9 have been cancelled, as having been drawn to non-elected inventions. Applicants expressly reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications to prosecute the inventions recited in claims 4-9.

New claims 10-16 have been added; however, no new matter has been added. Thus,

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